

We are told in Isaiah 55:8 that God's thoughts are not our thoughts nor His ways our ways. The prophet is simply reminding the people that the program of God is not always easily discernible to us and we may jump to conclusions about it that do not edify. The overall program of God is more than we can handle in this short series but we learn bits and pieces about it in many parts of the Bible. I Corinthians I has a good bit on the subject and we may consider it at this time.

II. Discussion: Regarding the program of God as we read in this chapter we see the following items, again all in chapter 1.

- 4---He is the giver of grace
- 9---He is faithful
- 17--His program has a central message
- 19--His ways are above the limits of human reason
- 21--His plan is built on belief (Hebrews 11:6)
- 25--His "foolishness" exceeds man's wisdom
- 29--His ultimate purpose is our total dependence on Him.

In short God is working to demonstrate His own wisdom in the face of human folly. If we are to be wise we must believe in Him and trust His work. This is the key to our living. We would have made a much more complicated plan but God has acted simply and honestly to receive us and give us the grace of life.

III. Conclusion: God's plan is purposeful and centers on the cross. Belief in Him and His work is salvific and his blessing is found in acceptance of His work through the Lord Jesus Christ. What God has done defies all human systems and inventions and we are forced to look to Him alone for our deliverance and peace. Those who do this know Christ, are admitted to the family of God, are able to comprehend His will and to live to His glory.

## **MESSAGE # 5 1 CORINTHIANS 1: TREATING A SINGLE PASSAGE OR IDEA OR THOUGHT**

Biblical Passage: 1 Corinthians 1:10

I. Introducing the Subject